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11. (Amended) A method of compressing a document, said document comprised of data elements and tag elements that impose a hierarchical structure on said data elements, said method comprising the steps of:  
compressing only said data elements in said document using a compression algorithm; and

inserting an identifier of said compression algorithm in said document, wherein said document before and after the compressing step is in a given file format.

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18. (Amended) A system for compressing a document, said document comprised of data elements and tag elements that impose a hierarchical structure on said data elements, said system comprising:

a memory for storing content and computer readable code; and  
a processor operatively coupled to said memory, said processor configured to:

identify said data elements in said document; and  
compress only said data elements in said document using a compression algorithm, wherein said document before and after compression is in a given file format.

19. (Amended) A system for compressing a document, said document comprised of data elements and tag elements that impose a hierarchical structure on said data elements, said system comprising:

a memory for storing content and computer readable code; and

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a processor operatively coupled to said memory, said processor configured to:

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compress only said data elements in said document using a compression algorithm; and

insert an identifier of said compression algorithm in said document, wherein said document before and after compression is in a given file format.

20. (Amended) An article of manufacture for compressing a document, said document comprised of data elements and tag elements that impose a hierarchical structure on said data elements, comprising:

a computer readable medium having computer readable code means embodied thereon, said computer readable program code means comprising:

a step to identify said data elements in said document; and

a step to compress only said data elements in said document using a compression algorithm, wherein said document before and after compression is in a given file format.

21. (Amended) An article of manufacture for compressing a document, said document comprised of data elements and tag elements that impose a hierarchical structure on said data elements, comprising:

a computer readable medium having computer readable code means embodied thereon, said computer readable program code means comprising:

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a step to compress only said data elements in said document using a compression algorithm; and

a step to insert an identifier of said compression algorithm in said document, wherein said document before and after compression is in a given file format.

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